

S 1622

End Speculative Oil and Gas Leasing Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: May 16, 2023

Current Status: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining.

Latest Action: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 118-285. (Jul 12, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1622>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NV • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jul 12, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3377	Identical bill	May 16, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

End Speculative Oil and Gas Leasing Act of 2023

This bill specifies requirements for the leasing of oil and gas resources on federal lands.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), with respect to certain federal land that is covered by a reasonably foreseeable development scenario (i.e., a long-term projection of oil and gas development), must not offer the land for lease until such scenario includes an assessment of the land's oil and gas potential that specifically identifies the potential for all acres subject to decisions on availability for leasing.

If certain federal land that is otherwise available for leasing of oil and gas resources is not covered by a reasonably foreseeable development scenario, the BLM must complete such a scenario prior to making the land available for lease in accordance with the requirements and factors described in this bill.

In general, the BLM must not offer for lease certain federal land otherwise available for leasing of oil and gas resources if such land is designated in the applicable reasonably foreseeable development scenario as having low or no potential for the development of oil or gas resources. However, the bill provides for a variance process.

With respect to each of these requirements, exceptions apply for federal land that is leased for the purpose of preventing oil or gas drainage or that meets specified requirements related to size and proximity to an oil- or gas-producing well.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 12, 2023:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 118-285.
- **May 16, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 16, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.